

FROM THE DIRECTOR

Ordinance 474-73, allocating land necessary for our Wattis Hall of Man and G. H. C. Meyer Fish Roundabout projects, was passed by the Board of Supervisors at its final reading on November 26, 1973.

Several hundred Academy members communicated their strong endorsement of the project to the Board of Supervisors, as did the Grand Jury, Greater San Francisco Labor Council, P.T.A. groups, and many conservation organizations, educators and educational institutions, and scientists and scientific societies. More than one hundred people appeared at the tedious hearings which preceded the passage of the ordinance.

I want to thank every person who gave his support, but it is impossible to do so personally and individually. So this is to say thank you — to all of you — the Academy members and Docents, the honorable Art, Planning, and Recreation and Park Commissioners, the staff members of the city departments, and the members of the Board of Supervisors for approving the Academy projects. San Francisco owes all of you its vote of thanks. It also owes appreciation to the generous benefactors who are making these wonderful improvements possible.

George E. Lansbury

JANUARY

1974

AT THE CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

JANUARY MEETINGS

Dates & Times: Matinee, 2:30 p.m., Wednesday January 9

Evenings, 8:00 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday, January 9-10

Place: May Treat Morrison Auditorium

Speaker: Charles L. Hogue

Subject: "THE ARMIES OF THE ANT", a film showing with comment by Dr. Hogue.

Army ants (*Eciton*) are but one of the unspeakable terrors of the jungle — or so the layman believes. Henry Walter Bates wrote, "Wherever they pass all the rest of the animal world is thrown into a state of alarm. They stream along the ground and climb to the summits of all the lower trees, searching every leaf to its apex, and whenever . . . booty is plentiful, they concentrate . . . all their forces upon it, the dense phalanx of shining and quickly-moving bodies, as it spreads over the surface, looking like a flood of dark-red liquid. . . The margins of the phalanx spread out at times like a cloud of skirmishers from the flanks of an army."

Dr. Hogue's film helps to dispel the erroneous ideas about the ant and its environment. It is one of Alan Landsburg Productions series of "docu-dramas" covering the adventures of a scientist asked to live several months in the wilderness and carry on whatever investigations they feel are worthy and to make a film record of the experience. Fifty-five minutes with Dr. Hogue, Senior Curator of Entomology at the Natural History Museum, Los Angeles County, and the army ants in the Costa Rican rainforest spells adventure into a curious leaf-veiled world of tropical insect communities.

Three presentations as indicated and your membership card will admit you through the main entrance of Cowell Hall. At the matinee performance you will be asked to show it once again at the auditorium entrance.

MORRISON PLANETARIUM

"THE CHRISTMAS STAR", continues in the Theatre of the Stars through January 5. Beginning January 10:

"NINETEEN-SEVENTY-FOUR", a sky show that asks "what's up?" for the coming year—the celestial events to anticipate—the when and the where and the why.

Performances daily at two with evening shows, Wednesday through Sunday, at 8:00. Extra matinees at 3:30 on Saturdays and Sundays. Closed Monday and Tuesday nights. Admission one dollar for adults and half-price for those 17 and under.

SPECIAL EVENT

"THE 1974 ANNUAL FUNGUS FAIR" occurs one-day-only on Sunday January 6. Sponsored by the Mycological Society of San Francisco, all kinds of mushrooms and toadstools will be on display from ten until five. Experts will be on hand to answer your questions and you can learn to tell poisonous fungus from the edible. One-day-only, Sunday January 6.

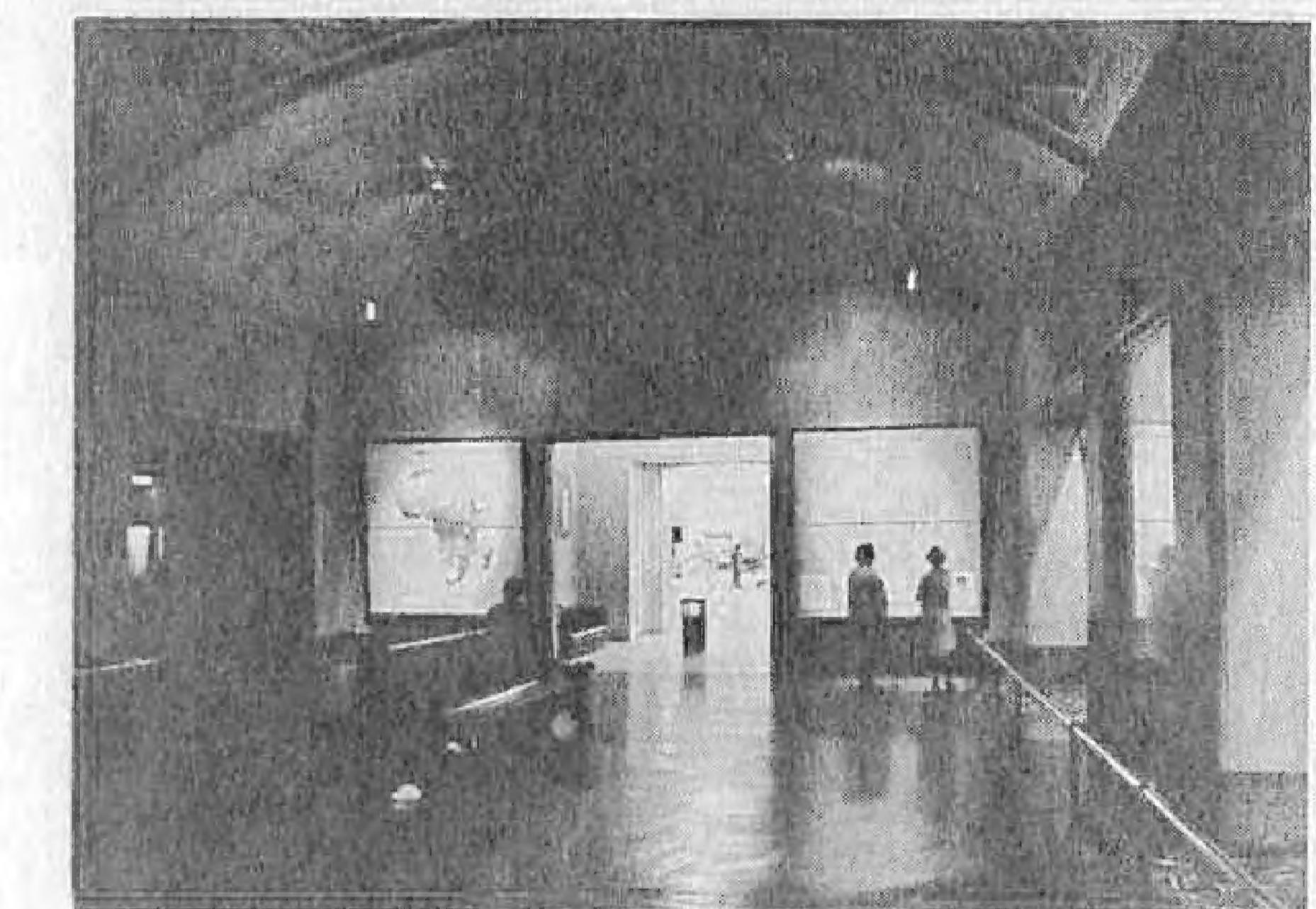
SPECIAL EXHIBITS

"SELECTIONS FROM THE REITZ COLLECTION" debuts in Lovell White Hall during January and will continue indefinitely. A gift to the Academy from the Reitz family, the total collection concerns itself with the storage, preparation and serving of food world-wide. Also included are some ancient Peruvian textiles.

"THE PREHISTORIC CAVE PAINTINGS OF FRANCE AND SPAIN" by Douglas Mazonowicz (who appeared before the membership in September 1973). All prints displayed may be ordered from the artist. Continues through February. Hohfeld Gallery.

"CETACEA"—a major Academy exhibit devoted to marine mammals—whales, dolphins, porpoises. Continues indefinitely in Cowell Hall.

News and Notes



Simson African Hall now boasts two new permanent additions made possible by the generosity of the Docent Council — a pair of beautifully-rendered, six-foot maps. They are located on either side of the entrance and one depicts vegetation, rainfall and wildlife and the other shows elevations, political boundaries and language groups.

They were commissioned from artist Beth Merrick and paid for by the monies garnered through the Docent Council's fund-raising activities. They were presented officially to the Academy on November 27.

The Sidewalk Astronomers would like to advise CAS members that they are offering "Telescope Making" this spring at the rate of \$25 per family. Students will learn how to construct their own telescopes at a fraction of retail cost. The class begins with a slide show and star party on February 5, and actual class sessions begin February 12 running through April 2, from 7-9 p.m. Please direct all your inquiries to John Dobson at 567-2063.

Four distinguished San Franciscans have been elected to the Academy's Board of Trustees effective November 14. They are Thad Brown, Jeffery W. Meyer, Otto N. Miller and Mrs. Paul L. Wattis.

Thad Brown has held the position of Tax Collector of the City and County of San Francisco for the past four years. Prior to that, he was Administrative Assistant to the Community Mental Health Program in San Francisco.

He has a long record of community service in the Bay Area. Mr. Meyer, a native San Franciscan, is President and Director, Wilson & George Meyer & Co., an expert in the field of chemical marketing and distribution. He has long been interested in diving and underwater photography and is a leader in the Steinhart Divers. Mr. Miller is Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Standard Oil of California and has been Chairman since 1966. All in all, he has had 38 years of varied experience with his company. He too is active in public affairs being involved with both the San Francisco Symphony and Opera Associations. He is also a trustee of Grace Cathedral.

Mrs. Wattis, originally from Utah, has a long list of public services — as a member of the Board of Trustees, San Francisco Museum of Art, a Director of the San Francisco Opera Association, serves on the National Advisory Council, University of Utah, and is a member of the Fine Arts Committee of the State Department of Washington, D.C.

A reminder that the CAS adult education program begins with six evening classes scheduled for January (please see your December NEWSLETTER for specifics):

"Music of the Non-Western World," Jan. 3-April 11. \$40

"Natural History of Insects", January 16-April 3. \$30

"History of Life", January 17-March 21. \$30.
"Celestial Navigation", January 29-May 14.

\$40.
"Astronomy for Fun", January 29 - May 7. \$35.

"Form & Structure: Drawing From Nature", twice weekly January 29 - March 30. \$45

Check with the Education Office of the Academy regarding pre-registration and San Francisco State University extension credit. 221-5100, Ext. 11.

The world of botany and the Academy in particular have lost a true friend with the passing of Lewis S. Rose last November. As a Research Associate, Mr. Rose had the distinction of having contributed, over a period of four decades, more botanical specimens than any individual in Academy history — exceeding 100,000. We regret his absence from our ranks and extend our sincere regrets to the members of his family.

MEET THE STAFF



WELTON L. LEE, newly-appointed Chairman and Curator of the Department of Invertebrate Zoology, came to the Academy July 1 of last year from his position as Assistant Professor of Biology, and Director, Undergraduate Research Participation Program, at the Hopkins Marine Station of Stanford University.

Born in San Francisco, Dr. Lee received his A.B. (with honors) from the University of California at Berkeley and his Ph.D. from Stanford University in 1965. Immediately thereafter he was a NATO Postdoctoral Fellow and an NIH Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of London, England. He returned to America in 1966 to assume the above mentioned position at Hopkins Marine Station and is now comfortably ensconced at the CAS.

Dr. Lee's research interests fall into the general categories of ecological physiology, marine ecology, and marine pollution biology. Current research programs are devoted to animal coloration and its ecological significance, the role and the importance of carotenoids and carotenoproteins in reproduction, the development of a reference collection and taxonomic keys to San Francisco Bay invertebrates, and a Monterey Bay benthic study.

Dr. Lee met his wife Joan when they were attending Lincoln High School in San Francisco. He was looking for an accompanist for his violin playing and they have been making musical duets ever since. As a very young man, he was involved in what is now the Academy's Junior Academy and it was a toss-up for a while whether he would become a violin virtuoso or an entomologist. The world of insects won, and led to his life interest in invertebrates. The Lees, however, have never relinquished their joy in music and perform happily when the occasion arises. They have a five year-old daughter Audrey.

NEW MEMBERS OF THE ACADEMY

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